

Message Text

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ACTION SP-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 MC-02 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
ERDA-05 /075 W
-----202058Z 105149 /40

P R 201626Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3036
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BONN
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 14937

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PARM, FR, NATO
SUBJECT: US ARMS SALES POLICY

REF: (A) STATE 115244 DTG 191929Z MAY 77; (B) STATE
115409 DTG 200159Z MAY 77; (C) STATE 115408 DTG
200157Z MAY 77

SUMMARY. CHARGE PRESENTED PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT AND
TALKING POINTS ON NEW POLICY TO QUAI POLITICAL DIREC-
TOR DE LABOULAYE MAY 20. LABOULAYE SAID QUAI WOULD
STUDY MATERIAL CAREFULLY. HE QUERIED RE VENUE AND
COMPOSITION OF DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE MEASURES FOR
MULTILATERAL ACTION. DE LABOULAYE STRESSED IMPORTANCE
OF SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN ANY SUCH EFFORT AND STATED
FIRMLY THAT SUCH DISCUSSIONS ARE NOT WITHIN COMPETENCE
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OF NAC. END SUMMARY.

1. ON MAY 20 CHARGE PRESENTED TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S
STATEMENT (REF A) TO QUAI POLITICAL DIRECTOR DE LABOU-
LAYE, DRAWING ON TALKING POINTS IN REFS B AND C.
A COPY OF THE TALKING POINTS WAS LEFT WITH DE LABOULAYE.

2. WHEN CHARGE COMPLETED HIS PRESENTATION, DE LABOULAYE MADE SEVERAL PERSONAL PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS. HE SAID THAT AS HE VIEWED IT, WITHOUT SOVIET COOPERATION, EFFORTS TO RESTRAIN CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS WOULD COME TO NOUGHT. CHARGE RESPONDED DRAWING ON PARA 6 REF C THAT SECRETARY HAD RAISED QUESTION OF RESTRAINT WITH SOVIETS IN MOSCOW. WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO DISCUSS ISSUE WITH THEM IN THE US-SOVIET WORKING GROUP.

3. DE LABOULAYE NOTED THAT FRANCE HAD MOVED INTO THE NUMBER 3 POSITION AS AN ARMS SUPPLIER, AHEAD OF THE UK THOUGH FAR BEHIND THE US AND USSR. HE CONTINUED THAT THE KEY SUPPLIERS WOULD HAVE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE. IF IT WERE PROPOSED TO REFER THE MATTER TO THE NAC FOR STUDY, FRANCE'S POSITION WOULD BE "RESERVED, IF NOT HOSTILE." RESTRAINT ON ARMS TRANSFERS -- A GLOBAL ISSUE -- IS BEYOND THE COMPETENCE OF THE NAC.

4. DE LABOULAYE CONTINUED THAT THE TWO FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THE US - EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP ARE ARMAMENTS (THE TWO-WAY STREET AND THE QUESTION OF THE SURVIVABILITY OF A VIABLE EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY) AND CIVIL NUCLEAR EXPORTS, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE FRG - BRAZIL AGREEMENT.

5. AT CONCLUSION OF CALL DE LABOULAYE REITERATED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY STATEMENT WOULD BE CAREFULLY EXAMINED AND THAT THE QUAI WOULD CONVEY ANY REACTIONS TO US.

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Message Attributes

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